Amendments to the Abstract:

Please add the following abstract:

-- ABSTRACT:

COMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS

An apparatus for processing radio signals for connection to a personal computing device (PCD) as a stream of digitised intermediate frequency (IF) data. In the inbound direction, information is received as radio frequency (RF) signals, down-converted to an IF, digitised and fed into the PCD via an interface management unit (IMU). Software modules in the PCD provide demodulation processing for the transmission scheme in use. A digitally synthesised transmitter appropriately modulates an IF signal, which is passed to the device via the IMU, where it is used to generate a corresponding analogue waveform. This waveform is up-converted to an appropriate RF frequency and transmitted. The PCD software is able to send commands to the device to set the centre frequency and bandwidth of RF to be accepted and transmitted, providing the basis for a generic, low-cost radio-frequency communications system.